



March, 25, 2013

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you once more for your time and interest in regards to our presentation of the GRIP Program at the BPH Boardroom last Tuesday, March 19, 2013.

The panel members (Jenny Lyon, victim; Pat Mims, former life-sentenced prisoner) and I appreciated your sincere attention as evidenced by the good questions that were posed at the end of the presentation.

We would like to invite you to visit the program and see it in action. For your visit, we would focus especially on the curriculum, to enable you to experience its theoretical framework.

Insight-Out is committed to making a contribution to the urgent need for substantial programming for prisoners and in particular for the thirty-thousand life-sentenced prisoners in California. Many have no access to the tools that allow them to develop the capacity for insight and impulse control that permit them to meet the criteria for a safe release.

Insight-Out's vision is to run the GRIP Program as a Standard Offender Accountability Program that would run in every state prison. Since the introduction of AB109, state prisons are primarily responsible for housing violent offenders. A program with a principal emphasis of the transformation of violent behavior should be available in every prison.

As a community-based organization we share in your concern for public safety. We wish to be actively involved and as such cultivate a more vibrant partnership between the Board and the community.

Rather than investing in keeping people in prison, we'd like to invest in keeping people from returning to prison. Our vision of "re-entry," starts inside the prison. We call our approach "new-entry" to connote the focus of our efforts in transforming the criminogenic needs of an offender. At its roots, the GRIP Program is about a change of heart, wherein an offender learns to see the possibility of living in a whole new way. The program is a trauma treatment-centered model which integrates the latest brain research and employs an evidence-based approach.

The intention of this letter is to invite you to come in and experience the program in action. The program runs three times each week at San Quentin, at the following times: TUE from 3 to 5pm; WED from 12:15 to 2:15pm; and FRI from 12:00 to 2:15pm. Please contact us for an appointment.

Sincerely,

Jacques Verduin, Director Insight-Out

P. O. BOX 888 WOODACRE, CA 94973 (415) 488-1348
WWW.INSIGHT-OUT.ORG JVERDUIN@COMCAST.NET